Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 11 as follows:

Figure 6 is a schematic representation of thrombus filter 20 after it has been pulled into lumen [[112]] 102 of retrieval catheter [[110]] 100. As may be seen in Figure 6, pulling thrombus filter 20 into lumen [[112]] 102 of retrieval catheter [[110]] 100 causes struts 24 to collapse. When struts 24 are collapsed, retrieval catheter [[110]] 100 may be withdrawn from blood vessel [[100]] 90. As can also be seen in Figure 6, anchor members 30 remain fixed in the walls of blood vessel [[100]] 90, retained by encapsulating cell growth 46.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 17 as follows:

Force F may be applied to thrombus filter 20 using a variety of methods. For example, the pulling of thrombus filter 20 into lumen [[112]] 102 of retrieval catheter [[110]] 100 may be accomplished with a retrieval wire including a hook. The retrieval wire may pass through bore 23 of body member 22. With the retrieval wire disposed in bore 23 of body member 22, the hook may engage body member 22 so that a pull force can be applied to thrombus filter 20.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 5 as follows:

A number of methods may be used to deflect struts 24. First, a pull force may be applied to thrombus filter [[10]] 20 as shown in Figure 5. Applying a pull force to thrombus filter 20 deflects blood vessel walls 32 and struts 24. When the pull force is released, blood vessel walls 32 and struts 24 deflect a second time in returning to an unstressed position. Pulling force F may be applied and released repeatedly to induce fatigue cracking at weakened areas 40. It should be noted that the pull force applied when using this removal method is not sufficient to break struts 24 at the outset. However, multiple applications of force F cause fatigue cracks to grow at weakened areas 40. As described above the cross-sectional area of struts 24 is reduced at weakened areas 40 by slots, holes, and the like. The cross-sectional area of struts 24 is further reduced by fatigue cracking due to repeated applications of force F. After multiple applications of force F, the cross-sectional area of struts 24 at weakened areas 40 will be small enough that force F alone is sufficient to break struts 24 at weakened areas 40.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 3 as follows:

Applying a push force to thrombus filter 20 deflects struts 24 to a first stressed position 70. Pulling on thrombus filter 20 deflects struts 24 to a second stressed position 72. In Figure 7, [[First]] first stressed position 70 and second stressed position 72 are represented by hidden lines. Alternating between pushing force G and pulling force H causes fatigue cracks to grow at weakened areas 40 of struts 24. As discussed above, the fatigue cracks continue to grow until forces G & H alone are sufficient to break struts 24 at weakened points 40. Thrombus filter 20 may then be pulled into lumen 102 of removal catheter 100 and subsequently removed from lumen 92 of blood vessel 90.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 11 as follows:

In the embodiment of Figure 7, pushing force G and pulling force H are applied to thrombus filter 20 by the force transfer member. To accomplish this, a mechanical link is formed between the force transfer member and body portion 22 of thrombus filter 20. This mechanical link may be formed using a number of methods. For example, the distal end of the force transfer member 110 (see Figure 8) may include a hook which interlinks with a mating hook fixably attached to body portion 22 of thrombus filter 20.